

Marriage Records of
Amherst County, Virginia
1817-1821
And
Subscription for Building
St. Mark's Church
Amherst County, Virginia

By

LAMOLA HERRINGBOTHAM SWENY

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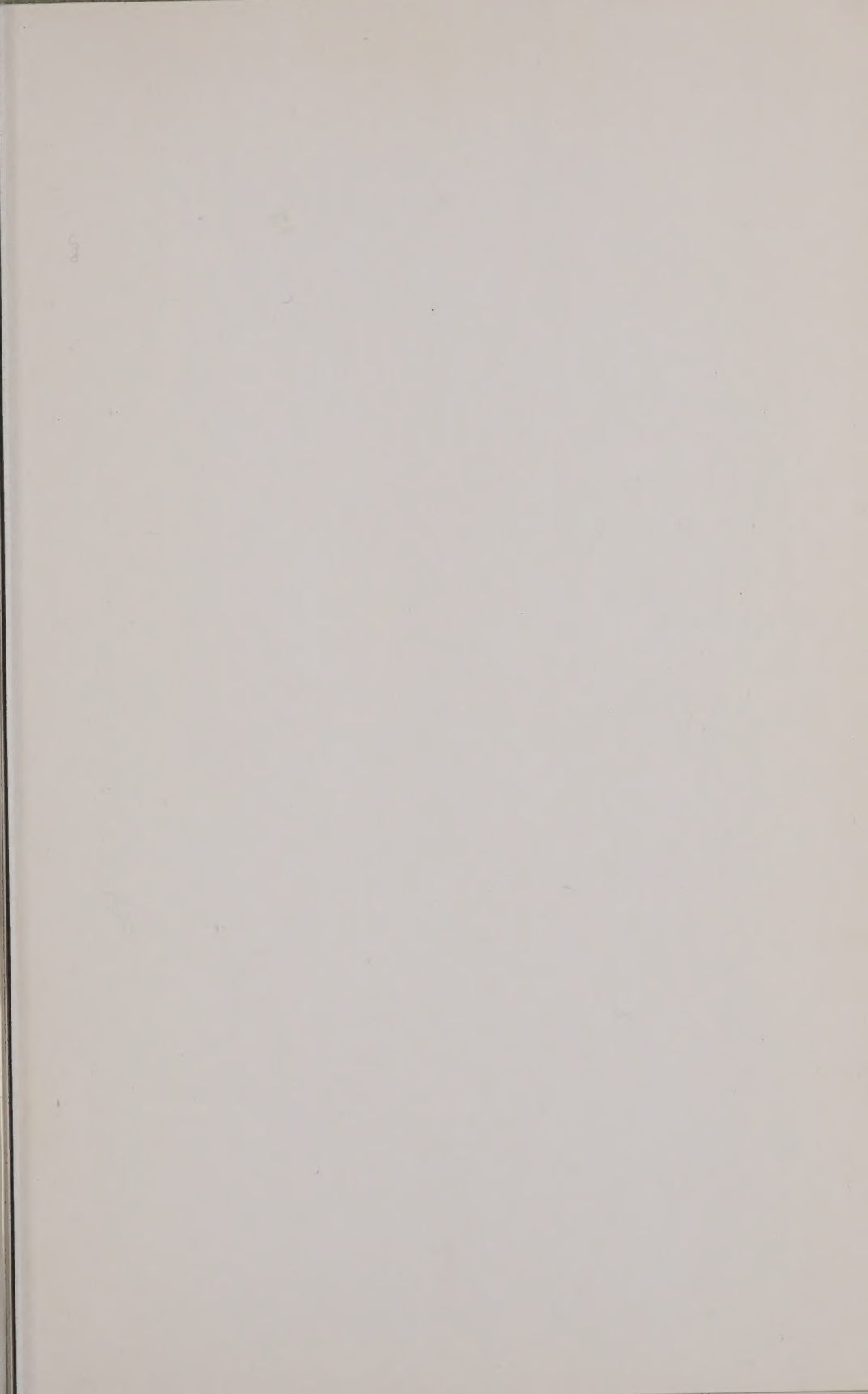
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St. Mark's Church, Lexington Parish, Amherst County, Virginia

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Marriage Records of
Amherst County, Virginia
1815 - 1821
And
Subscription for Building
St. Mark's Church
Amherst County, Virginia

By LENORA HIGGINBOTHAM SWEENEY

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TO

EARL GREGG SWEM, LITT.D., LL.D.

Dean of Virginia Historians

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Foreword

In her devotion to the historical interests of Amherst County, Mrs. Lenora Higginbotham Sweeny has prepared for publication this list of marriages in the county, covering the years 1815-1821. Through her persistent and untiring search in the court-house documents, she has discovered these records, which have not been included in any previous publication of county marriages. She mentions, with proof also, in her *Introduction* a few marriages of an earlier period hitherto unpublished. With the original "Subscription to St. Mark's Church," and the account of "The Family Cemetery at Winton," both printed in this volume, she has made a worthy addition to our knowledge of the history of Amherst County. Her volume entitled "Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution, including Extracts from the Lost Order Book, 1773-1782" published in 1951 has taken its place as one of the pre-eminent contributions in the field of Virginia local history. The value of printed marriage records is inestimable, useful in vital statistics, and in social studies. A little volume of this kind is one of the foundation stones of Virginia history.

E. G. SWEM

Spadehaven,
Williamsburg, Virginia

Preface

Amherst County, including the present County of Nelson, was formed from Albemarle in 1761. The first Amherst Order Book (1761-1766) is missing. Perhaps Minister's return of marriages of this period were recorded in this volume.

Although Amherst County was formed in 1761, no marriage records had been found of an earlier date than 1763, when my late husband, William Montgomery Sweeny was compiling "*Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763-1800.*" This book is fully indexed and contains records of over 1200 couples, including six marriages that were returned by ministers not known to have been of record until I found the "Lost Order Book," 1773-1782, in 1931. Many of the bonds give the names of the parents of the contracting parties.

There was no known record of the bundles of marriage bonds and minister's returns (1815-1821) in Amherst County until I discovered the "Lost Order Book," in 1931. With it was a mass of documents containing among other things, marriage bonds, unrecorded deeds and wills, and a number of chancery suits of the eighteenth century. Therefore they are not in any previous publication of county marriages.

It pleased me greatly to find the unrecorded will of John Tennison dated "19 Day of August 1790." He mentioned "all my children," but only named one: "To daughter Sarah Lewis and her husband Evan Lewis my plantation." Executor, son-in-law Evan Lewis. This marriage was not of record in Amherst County. I found their marriage in *Lynchburg's Pioneer Quakers* by Douglas Summers Brown, page 156. The following is copied from *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy* by William Wade Hinshaw, Vol. VI, page 341:

South River Monthly Meeting (frequently called Bedford Meeting) "Tennison

1790, 4, 22. Sarah, dt. John & Ann, Amherst Co., Va.;
m. Evan Lewis.

1789, 6, 20. Sarah [Tennison] Received by Request.

1790, 5, 8. Sarah Reported married to Evan Lewis."

Maybe when Amherst County was created there were Quaker marriages at the New Kingswood Meeting house. In 1805 the first mention of the Friends Meeting House appears in Amherst Records when James Edmonds, Sr., and Mary his wife, conveyed about two acres of land in trust to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This was part of a plantation bequeathed him by the will of his father, John Edmonds which was granted him in 1764. In 1808 when Nelson County was formed this land lay in the new county and they made good the deed to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and including all the small houses made use of at the Camp Meeting held at said place.

In the Eighties Judge Thomas Penn Fitzpatrick, of Nelson County, purchased from Trustees of the Methodist Church the old Kingswood Church building and lot and gave one-half for the benefit of the neighborhood as a place of religious worship. One half to be vested in the Baptist Church and the other undivided half to be vested in the Disciples Church.

In my book, "Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution," page 103, the widow of James Bowling applied for a pension and in order to prove their marriage she testified they were married by Rev. Kemp. "The banns were published in three different churches of Amherst County, as the law required: Pedlar, Maple Run and Keys Church." She also sent a copy of their marriage from the Family Bible.

December 17, 1838, Samuel M. Garland, Clerk of Amherst County, testified they were married April 7, 1777 — after third publishing of the banns without license from the Clerk, or marriage bond — a mode of

celebrating the rites of matrimony then & now lawful in Virginia.

I wish to express my deep appreciation to Dr. Earl Gregg Swem, Librarian Emeritus, College of William and Mary, for his kindly encouragement and helpful suggestions.

NORA HIGGINBOTHAM SWEENEY

January 30, 1961

8-10 27th Avenue

Long Island City 2, New York

Marriage Records of
Amherst County, Virginia
1815-1821
And
Subscription for Building
St. Mark's Church
Amherst County, Virginia

By LENORA HIGGINBOTHAM SWEENEY

AMHERST was formed from Albemarle County in 1761, and Amherst Parish with the same bounds as the county, was taken from St. Anne's at the same time. Rev. Ichabod Camp from Middleton and Wallingford in Connecticut was the first minister of the parish. He arrived in Amherst, 1 April 1762.¹

From a suit instituted in Augusta County, Virginia, April, 1763—Dean and wife vs. Young—is gleaned that William Dean and Mary, only daughter and heiress of Patrick Cooke were married by Rev. Ichabod Camp, Minister of the Church of England, on 14th June 1762, in Amherst County. Her guardian, Hugh Young, claimed that his neice, Mary, was not of age in 1763, and as he never gave his consent she was never married to William Dean. Replication held they were married by Rev. Ichabod Camp, Minister of the Church of England, on the 14th June 1762, in Amherst County, Virginia.²

In September, 1762, William Cabell, Jr., and Cornelius Thomas, Churchwardens, purchased from Aaron

¹Alexander Brown, *The Cabells and their Kin*, (1885), page 65; *Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution, Including Extracts from the "Lost Order Book," 1773-1782*, by Lenora Higginbotham Sweeney, page 50.

²*Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia*, by Lyman Chalkley, Vol. I, pages 101, 340; William Dean was a son of Rev. William Dean of the Province of Pennsylvania who made his will 17th July 1748. (*Ibid*, Vol 3, page 351.)

Higginbotham 204 acres of land and from Carter Braxton 50 acres as a glebe for Amherst Parish. Rev. Ichabod Camp was living on this glebe in 1763, which was situated near the present village of Clifford. In 1778, he went West with General Rogers Clark, and was the first Episcopalian Minister to officiate as such on the banks of the Mississippi. He settled in Illinois where he died at Kaskaskia, in 1786. His granddaughter, Susanna Maguerita de Reilhe, married Alexander McNair the first Governor of Missouri.³

The Parish Register of Amherst Parish is missing and it may be that Reverend Camp took the Register with him to preserve it during the Revolution for in the Register was record of his family. In 1776, Reverend Camp married his son, Samuel Camp to Mary, daughter of Gerrard and Ann (Stanton) Banks, in Amherst County, Virginia. Samuel Camp was assistant Quartermaster in Colonel Gabriel Penn's Regiment and in 1779 was at Albemarle Barracks and family record shows that he was in Georgia, in 1782. Sergeant Camp received a land grant in Washington County, Georgia, for his service in the Second Batallion of Continental Troops of the Georgia Line, in the Revolutionary War.⁴

The following marriages performed by Rev. Coleman were found in Amherst County, Virginia, Order Book 1784-1787, page 89:⁵

Amherst County, 1785. A Certificate from under the hand of the Reverend Mr. Benjamin Coleman in these words to Witt. "I do hereby certify that the following Persons are joined in the Holy State of Matrimony according to this certificate Vizt. Paul Spears, and Charity Payton, 29 January——Rice Key and Sally Hogg, 27 January and William Mayfield, and Salley Crittenden.

³Alexander Brown, *The Cabells and their Kin*, (1885), page 87.

⁴*Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Virginia, 1763-1800*, by William Montgomery Sweeny, page 15; *Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution*, page 50.

⁵These marriages were found too late to include in, *Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763-1800*. Many pages in this book are crumbling to pieces from age and dampness and should be preserved.

the third February in the Present Date. Given under my hand this 6th of March 1785. Ben: Coleman, and Admitted to Record."

There was no known record of the following marriages in Amherst County, until I found them among a mass of Court papers when I discovered the "Lost Order Book," 1773-1782, in 1931. Among them was the marriage bond of the grandparents of Senator Carter Glass for which genealogists had searched for many years.⁶

Anderson, Jacob, and Parmelia Laine, March 7, 1821.
Thomas Laine, surety.

Bass, Thomas, and Nancy Woodroof, May 15, 1820.
Samuel Heiskell, surety.

Bates, William, and Sally Goodrich, May 29, 1820.
Bennet G. Bates, surety. Consent of Sally.

Bibb, Levi, and Lucy Clements, April 1, 1820.
Thomas Stanton, surety. Consent of her father, John Clements. Consent of his father, Martin Bibb.

Boatright, Wade, and Eleanor Stone, November 5, 1816. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)⁷

Burford, Philip and Caroline Hansard, October 23, 1821. Samuel Heiskell, surety. Consent of her father, John Hansard, October 21, 1821.

Burress, Richard, and Jane Hansford, January 7, 1819. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)

Camden, William, and Polly Duncan, March 11, 1819. Consent of her guardian, William Duncan.
Witnesses: James F. Taliaferro, Addison Taliaferro. *This is consent only.*

⁶Among my treasured possessions is a letter of appreciation from Senator Glass, thanking me for finding this marriage bond of his ancestor and sending him a photostat copy of it. He also sent his Biography, "Carter Glass, A Biography," by Rixey Smith and Norman Beasley, (1939). On page four it is stated that Thomas W. Glass, the grandfather of Carter Glass, married Lucinda, daughter of Robert Cawthorne, in Fluvanna Co., Va., about 1818. As seen from the marriage bond the marriage took place in Amherst Co., Va., December 17, 1821.

⁷"M.R."——Minister's Returns.

- Campbell, Bartholomew, and Tabitha Mays, March 28, 1820. Charles Mays, surety.
- Campbell, George, and Polley Massee, January 22, 1817. Certificate of marriage by Rev. Anthony Gianniny. (M.R.)
- Carter, Robert W., and Mary W. L. Franklin, March 3, 1820. John W. Lightfoot, surety. Consent of Mary W. L.
- Casey, Joshua, and Marian Ensey, August 14, 1820. A. Jewell, surety who made oath that Marian was over 21 years of age.
- Christian, Daniel F., and Polly Coleman, January 4, 1820. Thomas Coleman, surety. Consent of Polly. Rev. Walter Christian certified that he married them January———— (missing).
- Clark, Micajah L., and Delila Burford, December 5, 1820. William Nowell, surety. Consent of her father Ambrose Burford. Consent of his father, Micajah *Clarke*, Sr.
- Clements, William, and Nancy Shewmaker, June 19, 1818. Married by Rev. Alexr. Sale. (M.R.) Date of License June 17, 1818.
- Cobbs, Charles R., and Susan Stone, November 5, 1816. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)
- Coleman, Winston L., and Nancy Grant, March 19, 1821. Robert Grant, surety. Consent of her father Robert Grant for his daughter to marry "Lucas W. Coleman."
- Crawford, John D., and Amarilla Noell, January 17, 1820. Micajah Noell, surety.
- Crawford, William and Sally Ann Hogg, October 16, 1820. John P. Crawford, surety.
- Daniel, James M., and Mary C. Shelton, March 10, 1821. Willis C. Wills, surety. Consent of her father William Shelton, who calls her Mary L. Shelton.

- Davies, Elijah, and Parmelia D. Hansard, November 2, 1820. John Hansard, surety. Samuel Pettit made oath that Parmelia was 21 years of age.
- Eubank, Richard N., and Nancy C. Ware, December 18, 1820. Micajah Pendleton, surety.
- Floid, Mitchell, and Polley Goolsby, September 3, 1818. Married by Rev. Anthony Gianniny. (M.R.)
- Franklin, Campbell, and Catherine Guthree, January 7, 1819. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)
- Garner, William, and Sally Wood, October 18, 1820. William Wood, surety.
- Glass, Thomas W., and Lucinda Cawthorne, December 17, 1821. William L. Clark, surety. Consent of her father, Robert Cawthorne, December 12, 1821.
- Goodwin, John, and Polly Goodwin, November 21, 1820. John H. Goodwin, surety. Consent of her parents, John H. and Mary Goodwin.
- Goodwin, Robert, and Parmelia Minton, May 2, 1820. William Y. Minton, surety.
- Hannah, William, and Jane C. Thornton, August 21, 1820. Peter P. Thornton, surety.
- Hartless, James, and Sally J. Taylor, January 29, 1821. George Taylor, surety. Consent of Sally.
- Hatton, Richard, and Hannah Ball, December 20, 1820. Jeremiah Coats, surety.
- Haynes, William, and Mary Pendleton, April 3, 1821. John F. Burks, surety. Consent of her father, Richard Pendleton. Consent of his guardian, Richard H. Burks.
- Henderson, Obadiah, and Susannah London, January 3, 1820. Consent of her father James London. James Turner, surety.
- Hennis, Benjamin C., and Patience Pettit, December 5, 1820. Samuel Pettit, surety. Samuel Pettit made oath that Patience was 21 years of age.
- Holley, Creed P., and Matilda Dawson, March 16, ————— (part of date missing). Dabney Ware,

surety. Consent of her father, Nelson C. Dawson, March 10, 1821.

Hopkins, Dr. Arthur, and Elizabeth Moss, January 7, 1819. Certificate of marriage by Rev. James Boyd. (M.R.)

Isbell, William J., and Lucy Furlong, February 7, 1818. Certificate of marriage by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)

Johnson, Lemuel, and Parmelia Bolling, October 23, 1820. James Bolling, Jr., surety. Consent of her father, James *Bowling*, Sr.

Johnson, Thomas, and Phebe Carter, April 22, 1819. Certificate of marriage by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)

Jones, Ambrose, and Elizabeth Bates, February 7, 1821. Daniel Bates, surety. Consent of her father, William Bates.

Landrum, Burton, and Nancy Staples, November 6, 1820. John Smoot, surety. John Smoot made oath that Nancy Staples was upward of 21 years of age. Consent of her mother, Mary Staples.

Lavender, William, and Sarah Stratton, married by Rev. Holmes, April 4, 1784.⁸

Logan, Alexander, and Sarah S. Parish, May 26, 1820. Meredith Parish, surety.

Logan, David, and Nancy Cash, November 18, 1820. Reubin Cash, surety. Consent of her father, Peter Cash, for his daughter "Nansey Wilson Cash" to marry David Logan.

McCary, Benjamin, and Catherine Burford, December 5, 1820. William Nowell, surety. Consent of her father, Ambrose Burford. Bond signed by Benjamin *Gay* and William Nowell.

⁸July 7, 1838, Sarah Lavender, of Amherst Co., Va. testified that she was married to William Lavender, April 4, 1784, by Rev. Holmes a minister in the Episcopal Church. They were married without license from the Clerk of Amherst County where her father, John Stratton, then resided, and after the banns had been thrice published in the church, which was then and still is one of the legal modes of celebrating the rites of matrimony in Virginia. (National Archives, Pension File No. 8080.)

- Magann, Joseph, and Jane Hill, January 22, 1820.
Willis White, surety. Consent of Jane.
- Mays, Pierce W., and Nancey Robertsen, January 25, 1821. Thomas D. Hill, surety.
- Mays, Richard, and Phoebe Sale, November 15, 1820.
William Mays, surety. Consent of Phoebe who states she is over 21 years of age.
- Mitchell, Archilus, and Rhoda Jinkins, February 1, 1820. Elias Rucker, surety. Rhoda gave her own consent.
- Mitchell, Henry, and Parmelia Jones, March 23, 1819 (not clear). Lane Jones, surety.
- Mitchell, John, and Nancy C. Roach, November 14, 1820. Henry L. Roach, surety. Consent of her father, Henry Roach.
- Muse, William P., and Parmelia Miles, March 1, 1820. Daniel Norcutt, surety. Consent of Parmelia Miles, widow of Thadius Miles, decd., to marry William Muse.
- Nevil, William, and Sarah Logan, April 8, 1820.
James Logan, surety.
- Noell, Micajah, and Parmelia Bryant, January 17, 1820. John D. Crawford, surety.
- Page, Dillard, and Betsey Moore, September 18, 1820.
William Moore, surety.
- Parish, Pleasant, and Polly Reese, September 11, 1815. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)
- Sandidge, Anderson, and Harriet Hansborough, January 17, 182— (part of date missing.) Philip Thurman, surety.
- Simerton, John, and Sally Peacock, June 19, 1820.
John Penn, surety.
- Simpson, Lewis P. and Nancy Gregory, June 10, 1820.
James S. Higginbotham, surety, who made oath that Nancy Gregory was 21 years of age. Consent of Nancy.
- Teppence, James, and Betsey Evans, November 22, 1820. Reubin Carver, surety. Consent of her mother, Anes *Evins*.

- Thomas, Nelson, and Polly Johnson, December 16, 1818. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman (M.R.)
- Thompson, John, Jr., and Caroline E. Brown, spinister, both of Amherst County, February 19, 1821. Lucas P. Thompson, surety. Consent of her father, Benjamin Brown for his daughter Caroline to marry Mr. John Thompson, Jr.
- Walker, William B., and Sally A. Roach, August 15, 1820. Henry L. Roach, surety. Consent of her father, Henry Roach.
- Walton, Edward, and Nancy Hansford, April 22, 1819. Married by Rev. Pleasant Thurman. (M.R.)
- Watts, James D., and Jane S. Higginbotham, December 9, 1820. Robert Higginbotham, surety. Consent of her father, William Higginbotham. Witnesses to his signature: Ro: Higginbotham and Flora B. Higginbotham. Consent of his father, William L. Watts. Witnesses to his signature: Henry H. Watts and Reese Cunningham.
- Wills, Elias, and Mary G. Pendleton, January 29, 1820. John D. Wills, surety. Consent of her father, Reuben Pendleton.
- Wilmore, John and Sally Bates, August 7, 1820. John H. Wilmore, surety. Consent of her father, William Bates. Consent of his father, William Wilmore, who made oath that his son was of lawful age.
- Wood, Jesse, and Mary Browne, February 1, 1821. Joseph Brown, surety. Consent of her father, Jeremiah Browne.

Subscription for building St. Mark's Church, Lexington Parish

Lexington Parish was formed from Amherst Parish in 1778. The first rector was Rev. John Buchanan, in 1778, who later became rector of St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia.

A Vestry was held at St. Matthews, Lexington Parish, May 24, 1779. Present Richard Ballenger, Churchwarden; Vestrymen Daniel Gaines, Ambrose Rucker, Joseph Goodwin. Josiah Ellis, James Dillard and Samuel Higginbotham.

At a vestry held for Lexington Parish, at Ambrose Rucker's Gent. on January 11, 1780, the vestry proceeded to lay off the Parish in districts and appointed Processioners thereto Viz.——

- District No. 1. Mr. William Spencer and Capt. John Higginbotham
- No. 2. Charles Christian and Josiah Gilbert
- No. 3. William Horsley and Capt. John Christian
- No. 4. James Christian and James London
- No. 5. Capt. Joseph Crews and Snelling Johnson
- No. 6. Isaac Rucker and Daniel Burford, Jr.
- No. 7. Henry Landon Davies and Capt. Henry Trent
- No. 8. Isaac Tinsley and Richard Powell
- No. 9. Thomas Lucas and Joseph Childress
- No. 10. William Pollard and George Gilbert
- No. 11. William Tucker and John Scott
- No. 12. Capt. Samuel Higginbotham and Joseph Higginbotham, Jr.
- No. 13. Lindsay Coleman and Nathaniel Mantiply
- No. 14. Hendrick Arnold and Thomas Dickenson

No. 15. Capt. Roderick McCulloch and Zachariah Taylor

No. 16. Joseph Edwards and John Sandidge

No. 17. Samuel Shackelford and Charles Ellis

The register of Lexington Parish is not extant. Fortunately the vestry book is preserved and was deposited in the Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, for safe keeping. Many years ago I visited the Seminary to read the vestry book, only to learn it had been loaned to Rev. Lewis, rector of Lexington Parish, Amherst County, Virginia. While there I examined the parish register of Albemarle Parish, Surry County, Virginia. Between the pages was found a loose leaf which proved to be a subscription for building St. Mark's Church, Lexington Parish, Amherst County, Virginia.

The late Mr. Morgan P. Robinson, Archivist, Virginia State Library, was interested in me finding this subscription. He had a photostat copy made and the copy is now in the back of the photostat copy of the Lexington Parish Vestry Book, in the Archives Department, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

The following is a transcript of the document:

SUBSCRIPTION FOR BUILDING ST. MARK'S CHURCH

For the particular purpose of providing a decent House for Public Divine Worship in the neighbourhood of Cabellsburg of the protestant Episcopal Church and as the most easy method for acquiring the same is the removal & rebuilding of Maple Run Church (which is now offered us) we whose names are hereunto subscribed do oblige ourselves our Heirs &c. whenever called upon for that purpose, by Samuel Meredith, Hugh Rose and Gabriel Penn, Trustees To faithfully contribute towards the Laudable purpose the amount of our several Subscriptions either in commutables subscribed or upon failure to do so Cash in Lieu thereof at the Cash value of the said commutables to be estimated by the said Samuel Meredith, Hugh Rose & Gabriel Penn.

Given under our hands &c. November 3rd: 1788

1788 Novr 7		Nt. Pork	Corn	Wheat	Labour	Dolls.
	Gabriel Penn			10 bushl.&		20
	Saml Megginson		1 Barrl.			2
	Wm. Phillips		1 Barrel			3
	Richard Bettersworth				6 days	
	James Rowsey		½ barrel			
	John Phillips		1 barrel			
	James Savage		1 barrel			2
	James Higginbotham		1 barrel			5
	J. Stewart		1 Barrel			
	G. Sands		1 Barrel			
	Nathl Mantiply					4
	George Penn, Jur.					3
	Wm. Crutcher					1
	John Clark					1
	Richd Fulcher					1
	John Stratton					3½
	William Layn					5
	James Pendleton					4
	Joshua Hudson Senr.					5
	Frank Lee					2
	James M. Brown					3
	Joel Franklin paid					2

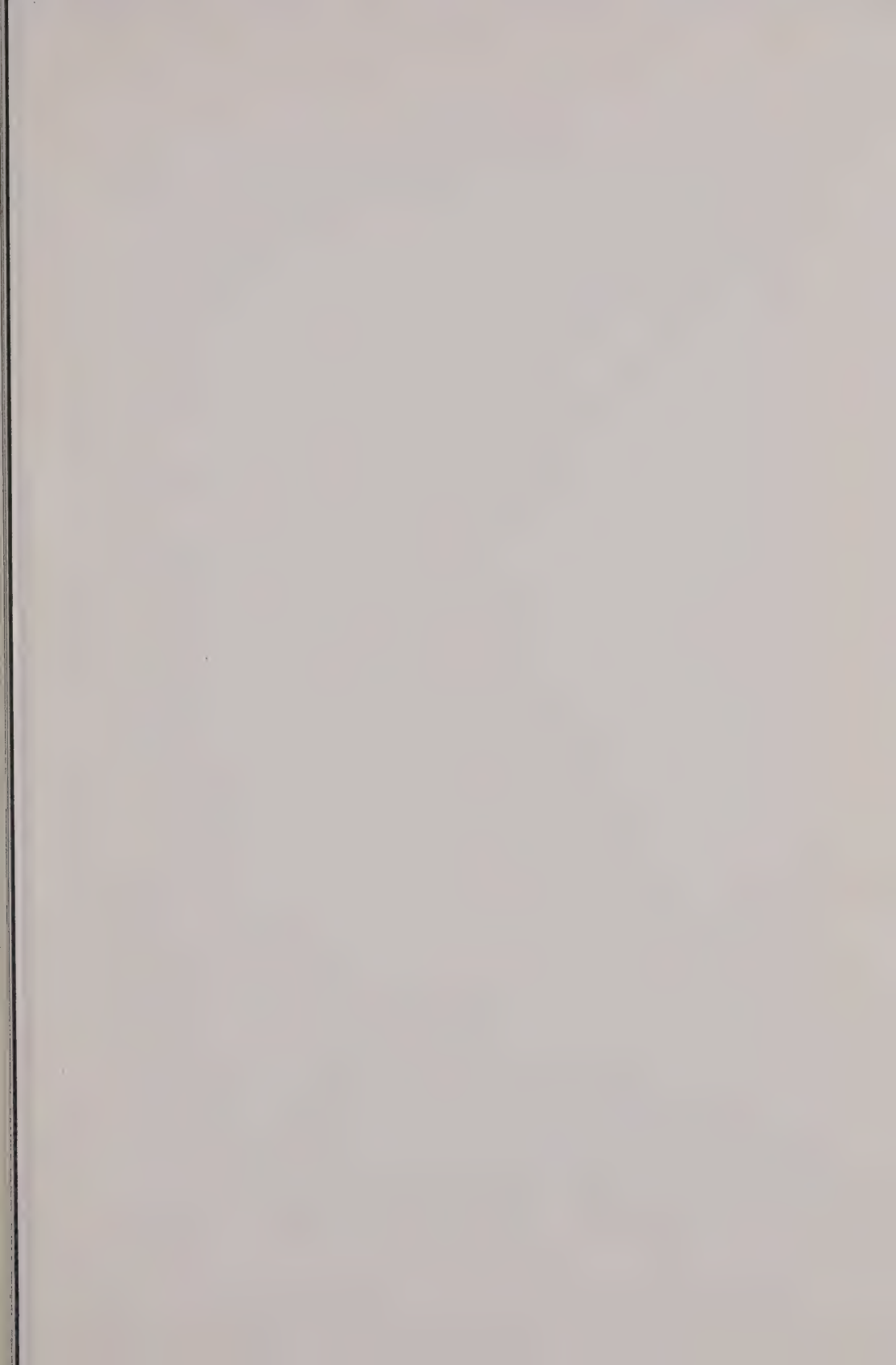
The Family Cemetery at Winton Amherst County, Virginia

Winton, built by Colonel Joseph Cabell in 1772, at Cabellsburg, (later called New Glasgow and now Clifford,) was sold to Colonel Samuel Meredith when Colonel Cabell moved to Buckingham County, Virginia.

Around Winton many pleasant memories cling. Wreathed about it is "the tender grace of the day that is dead." It was a center of the social life of the period, its owner and his wife distinguished in family, wealth and hospitality. Colonel Samuel Meredith married Jane, daughter of John Henry of Aberdeen, Scotland, "father of Patrick Henry" and his wife Sarah, who was the daughter of Isaac Winston, and widow of Colonel John Syme, of Hanover County. John Henry settled in Virginia sometime prior to 1730. He was a most useful citizen of Hanover County, serving as Colonel of Militia, surveyor and presiding magistrate for many years. The wife of Colonel John Henry, says Wirt, "possessed in an eminent degree, the mild and benevolent disposition, the un-deviating probity, the correct understanding and easy elocution," for which the ancient family of Winston is distinguished.¹ Colonel Samuel Meredith, of Hanover, later of Amherst was a Revolutionary officer and Captain Nicholas Cabell's Minute Company June, 1776 marched from Amherst County and was in his Battalion at battle of Jamestown.² Colonel Samuel Jordan Cabell, after his return from the Continental Army married Sarah, daughter of Colonel John Syme, Jr. of Hanover County, Virginia, and niece of Patrick Henry. In 1785 they went to

¹Hardesty's *Historical & Geographical Encyclopedia, Special Virginia Edition*, page 348.

²Lenora Higginbotham Sweeny, *Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution*, page 6.





TAKEN BY THE AUTHOR IN 1928

WINTON

Built by Col. Joseph Cabell, in 1772; sold in 1779 to Col. Samuel Meredith when Col. Cabell moved to Buckingham County.
Sarah Henry, Patrick Henry's mother, died here in 1784

reside at his home "Soldier's Joy," Amherst County, not a great distance from Winton.³

The son of Colonel Samuel Meredith and his wife Jane, Major Samuel Meredith was born in Virginia, October 9, 1765. He married Elizabeth Breckinridge (sister to John Breckinridge, Secretary of the State under President Jefferson.) He moved to Kentucky in 1790 with his wife and three year old daughter Jane Henry Meredith. He settled eight miles north of Lexington on a grant of 2000 acres given his father for his services in the French and Indian War. He named his place for his father's home, "Winton." He died at "Winton" in Kentucky, June 21, 1825 and is buried there in the old family graveyard.

Major Samuel Meredith's second daughter Letitia, born at "Winton," Kentucky in 1790, married Major William S. Dallam, son of General Richard Dallam and Frances Paca the sister of William Paca, Governor of Maryland and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Major Dallam's eldest daughter, Frances Paca Dallam, married Dr. Robert Peter of Cornwall, England. Their son Hugh Peter was the father of Catherine Peter who married Howard Evans.⁴

The portrait of Major Samuel Meredith painted by Samuel H. Dearborn, owned by his great-great granddaughter, Mrs. Howard Evans, "Winton," Kentucky, with her permission was reproduced in my book, *Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution* in 1951.

Major Samuel Meredith's older half brother, Major William Meredith, also migrated to Kentucky.

Apparantly from the following letter Sarah Henry, mother of Patrick Henry, did not know that her distinguished son on the 17th of November, 1784, was again elected Governor of Virginia.

³Alexander Brown, *The Cabells and Their Kin* (1895), page 185.

⁴Letters from Mr. Howard Evans, Winton, Lexington, Kentucky, December 2, 1950 and September 23, 1951.

Winton, December 22, 1784

Dear Sir-----

Your favor by Elijah Dennis, came safe to hand a few days after the demise of my dear Honored Mother-in-law, of which your sister Meredith took the earliest opportunity to inform you; her illness was constant for the last six or seven months of her life----- never did I know a Christian character equal to hers----- What an honor it is to all those that claim their descent from such a person. May they all be enabled to follow her blessed example. In order that you might be fully informed in what manner her worldly matters are left, I enclose a copy of her will, also a copy of receipts which she gave me when I settled with her for what remained in my hands belonging to the estate of my deceased father-in-law. I have seen Mr. Edmund Winston. He has agreed to act as one of her executors which I expect will be pleasing to all parties concerned. He has asked me to qualify with him. I intend to do so at our next court.

I am, dear sir, Yours affectionately,

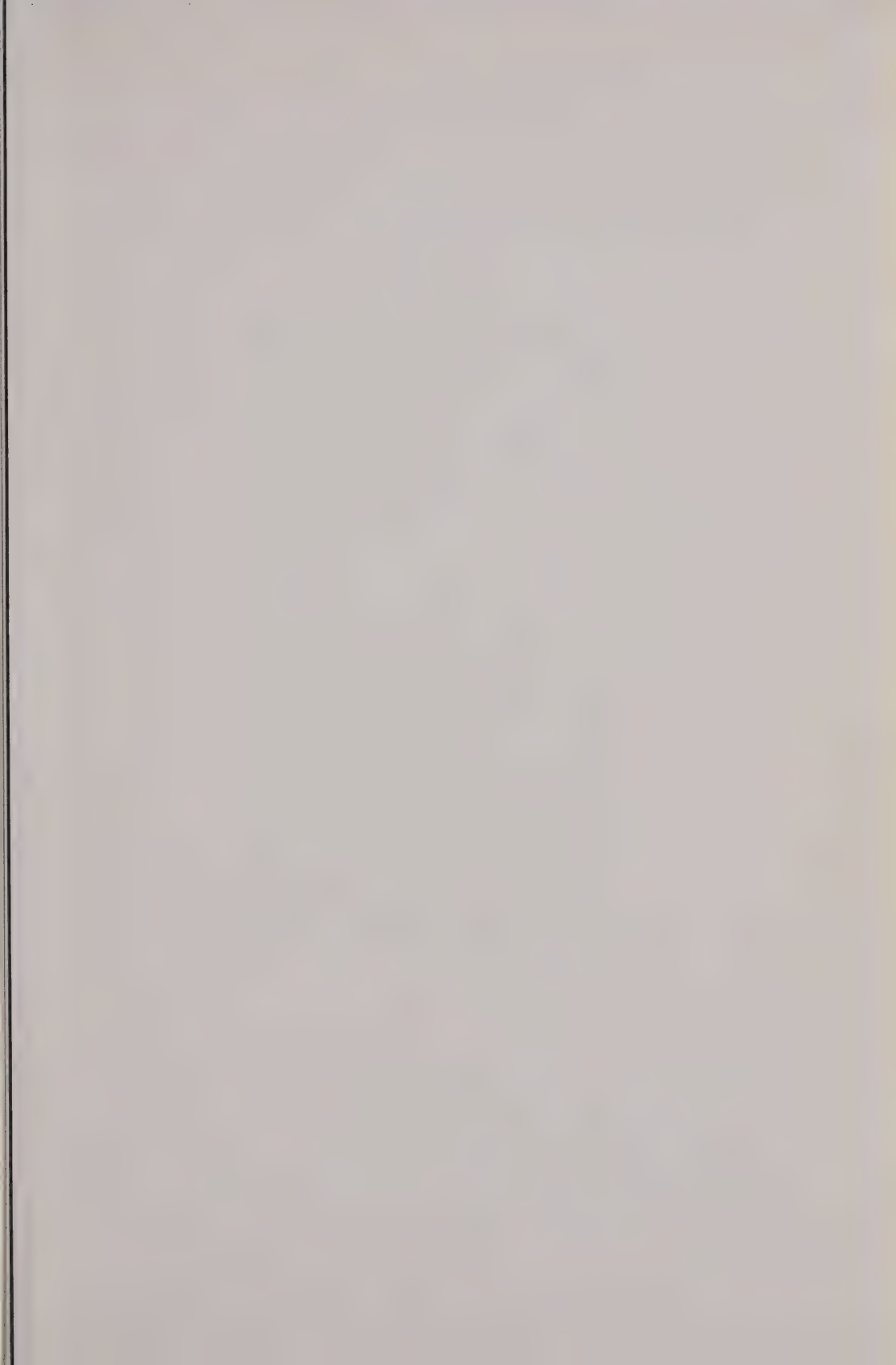
S. MEREDITH⁵

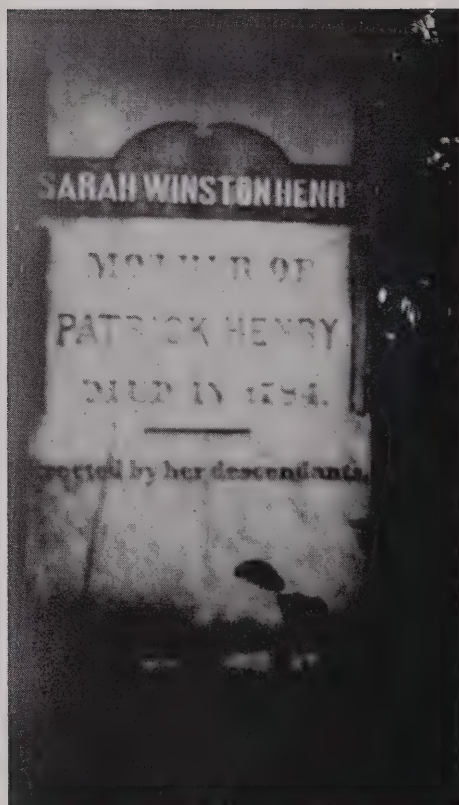
Christmas Day Sarah Henry, mother of Patrick Henry, was at rest before the fireplace in the parlor at Winton in a casket lined with loving hands.⁶

The Winton burying ground has several graves of historical importance. Not only was Patrick Henry's mother buried there in 1784, but by their request at her feet lie her daughter, Jane and her son-in-law, Colonel Samuel Meredith.

⁵William Wirt Henry, *Patrick Henry, Life Correspondence and Spraches*, Vol. II, 251.; The will of Sarah Henry written (except "acknowledged in presence of" is in the handwriting of Col. James Higginbotham a witness to the will) and signed by her March 12, 1784, is preserved and on file in the Court House, Amherst County, Virginia.

⁶Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 63, page 110.





MONUMENT
to
SARAH WINSTON HENRY
Mother of Patrick Henry

The following condensed inscriptions are from the tombstones in the cemetery at Winton, Amherst County, Virginia:

Sarah Winston Henry
Mother of
Patrick Henry
Died in 1784
Erected by her descendants⁷

Colonel Samuel Meredith died 1808,
aged 76 years

Jane Meredith died August 12, 1819,
aged 81 years, 1 month and 24 days

Marion Fountain Cabell
Born August 2, 1830
Died February 17, 1833
Daughter of E. V. & G. K. Cabell

Sacred to the Memory of
William Higginbotham
Born November 19, 1822
Died January 11, 1825

⁷"Marked by Miss Elvira Miller, great-great granddaughter of Sarah Winston Henry, who on October 9, 1954 celebrated her 104 birthday at her beautiful home in Lynchburg, Virginia, surrounded by elegant reminders of her Colonial ancestry. A great granddaughter of Patrick Henry, she was born at Red Hill, the home and last resting place of her distinguished forefather." She died at her home July 24, 1955 and was buried in Springfield cemetery. Letter from Mrs. Thomas Burchett, Ashlawn, Kentucky, a descendant of General William Russell and his (2) wife Mrs. Elizabeth (Henry) Campbell, sister of Patrick Henry and widow of Colonel William Campbell.

MARRIAGE RECORDS OF AMHERST

James Garland

Born.....27, 1774

Died February 22, 1816

Preston Harrison Garland

Died February 20, 1830

Hon. R. A. Coghill

Born November 14, 1802

Died March 17, 1889

David S. Garland is interred here. His wife was a daughter of Colonel Samuel Meredith and therefore a niece of Patrick Henry.

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